

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	Henderson et al.	Examiner:	Bianco, Patricia
Serial No.:	09/994,551	Group Art Unit:	3762
Confirmation No.:	8199	Docket:	760-99
Filed:	November 27, 2001	Dated:	April 7, 2004
For:	IMPROVED NEXT GENERATION AV GRAFT		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RECEIVED

APR 15 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

*I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid
in an envelope, addressed to:*

*Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
on April 9, 2004*

Signed: _____

Kim Tillman

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement of March 18, 2004, applicant hereby elects Invention I, directed to claims 1-31, with traverse.

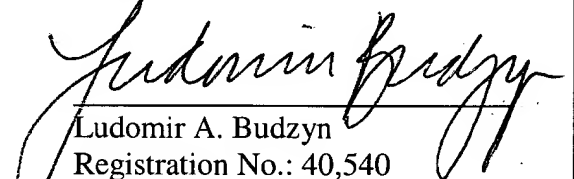
In addition, the Examiner indicated that if Invention I is elected, a further election of species is required. The Examiner set forth a five-way species election requirement, including species A-E. Applicant hereby elects the invention of Species A with traverse; claims 1-5, 12, 13, and 18-20 read on Species A. It is respectfully submitted that Species D and E are searchable with Species A. Figure 1 of the subject application is directed to a ribbed structure, with Figures 3 and 4 showing alternative cross-sections for the rib designs. The same search for the rib structure of Figure 1 would also cover the structures of the Figures 3 and 4 without undue

Applicant: Henderson et al.
Application Serial No.: 09/994,551
Filing Date: November 21, 2001
Docket No.: 760-99
Page 2

burden. It is thus respectfully submitted that the grafts of Figures 1, 3 and 4 constitute one species and that species is hereby elected. Claims 1-13 and 18-20 correspond to the grafts of Figures 1, 3 and 4.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions or if additional information is required, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


Ludomir A. Budzyn
Registration No.: 40,540
Attorney for Applicant(s)

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(973) 331-1700